

BENF

FLOAT SQUEEZE

Beneficient

float squeeze

premarket movers

small cap

capital structure

NASDAQ

BENF Quadruples Premarket as Beneficient Moves to Erase the Heppner Debt — Anatomy of a Sub-3M Float Repricing

September 23, 2026 — 8:28 AM EDT · Report #134 · Free Equity Reports Research

◆ DESK TAKE

Up 300%+ premarket September 23 after Beneficient announced a strategy to eliminate the Heppner/HCLP fabricated debt and convert \$850M of preferred claims into a trivial share count — a real capital-structure catalyst, though it's announced intent, not a signed deal. Sub-3M float with 30%+ short ratio is squeeze fuel, but the Yorkville convert facility is live supply into strength. Watch \$2.80 resistance (premarket high) and mid-\$1.40s support (premarket VWAP zone) into the open.

DATA BOX

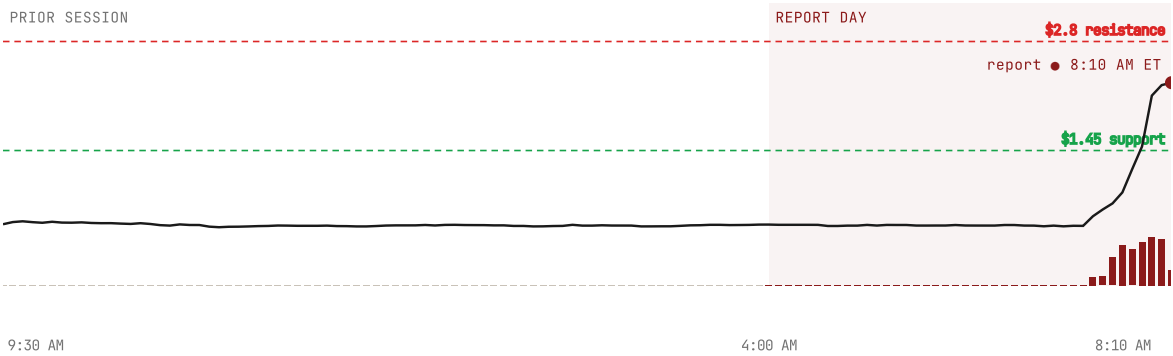
Price	\$2.20
Change	+308.69%
Volume	98.80M
Float	2.27M
Mkt cap	\$33.94M

MECHANICS

Float is roughly 2.3M shares against 15.4M outstanding, with premarket volume turning the float over dozens of times. Active Yorkville convertible note facility (amended, with new notes issued August 11, 2026) is a live dilution channel; the September 23 plan would convert \$850M of Heppner liquidation-preference preferred into just 162,132 Class A

shares. The ticker has reverse-split history and printed its all-time low on September 15, 2026.

BENF — PRIOR SESSION → REPORT TIME



DATA BOX — MACHINE-VERIFIED

Data Box — BENF · as of 8:27 AM ET, 2026-09-23 · Pre-market session

METRIC	VALUE
Price	\$2.20
Previous close	\$0.54
Change	+308.69%
Volume (premarket)	98.80M
Float	2.27M
Shares outstanding	15.43M
Market cap	\$33.94M
52-week range	\$0.50 - \$12.48
Avg daily volume (20d)	12.65M
Relative volume	N/A (premarket)

All figures machine-sourced from market data APIs at publication time.

Beneficient hit an all-time low barely a week ago. This morning, September 23, it's trading up more than 300% premarket on volume that has turned the entire float over dozens of times before the opening bell. Writing this at 8:27 AM ET, the tape has already traveled from just above yesterday's close to a premarket high near \$2.80 and settled back near \$2. Let's walk through what's actually driving it — because this is one of the rare small-cap spikes with a genuinely substantive catalyst, and understanding *why* it's substantive is the whole trade.

The catalyst: erasing a fabricated debt

At 7:30 AM ET, Beneficient announced it has formulated and is implementing a comprehensive strategy intended to eliminate both the fraudulent indebtedness asserted by HCLP Nominees and the equity interests in Beneficient and its subsidiaries held by former CEO Brad Heppner and his affiliated entities. Context matters here: Heppner was criminally convicted in a trial where it was established that he fabricated the debt to HCLP, an entity now known to be controlled by him. Reporting on this morning's plan indicates the proposed resolution would convert the Heppner Equity Interests — including \$850 million in liquidation-preference preferred equity — into just 162,132 Class A shares.

Here's the educational point: preferred stock with a liquidation preference sits *ahead* of common shareholders in the capital stack. If \$850 million of preference claims and a disputed nine-figure debt effectively vanish in exchange for a rounding-error share issuance, the residual value attributable to common equity mechanically increases. That's why the market's repricing this violently. For scale, cash was \$2.5 million and debt \$96.8 million at March 31, 2026 — the disputed obligations dwarfed the market cap. The caveat: this is a *strategy*, not a signed settlement. The

company says it continues to dispute the validity, enforceability, ownership, amount and value of the purported HCLP debt and will disclose material developments as appropriate. Announced intent isn't executed resolution.

The float math and the supply risk

A sub-3M float against premarket volume near 100M shares is a loaded spring — nobody holding size needs to sell into strength, and every dip gets bought by shorts covering. Notably, the short sale ratio was running above 32% as of September 11, so squeeze fuel exists. But know the supply picture: Beneficient issued convertible notes under an amended Yorkville deal as recently as August 11. Yorkville-style converts typically convert at a discount to market — spikes like this are exactly when that paper comes out. Watch EDGAR for conversion notices and any prospectus supplements. This ticker also carries a reverse-split history, and it printed its all-time low on September 15, 2026 — eight days ago.

The levels

- **Resistance:** the premarket high near \$2.80. A reclaim on volume opens air toward the \$3.50–\$4.25 zone where it traded post-conviction in May.
- **Support:** the mid-\$1.40s, where the bulk of premarket volume transacted (the VWAP zone). Losing it suggests the early buyers are trapped.
- **Line in the sand:** the \$0.85 area, the September 18 high. Below that, the catalyst premium is fully unwound.

Trade the confirmation, not the headline: a hold above premarket VWAP into the open keeps continuation alive; a fast fade through it with Yorkville paper

printing means supply won. Halt risk is elevated all morning at this velocity — size accordingly.

This is independent research, not investment advice; do your own diligence.

MECHANICS BOX — THE STRUCTURAL READ

- Shares outstanding: 15.43M · Float: 2.27M
- Dilution-relevant SEC filings (30d): none found in the last 30 days
- Splits: 1-for-8 reverse (2025-12-15), 1-for-80 reverse (2024-04-18)
- Float is roughly 2.3M shares against 15.4M outstanding, with premarket volume turning the float over dozens of times. Active Yorkville convertible note facility (amended, with new notes issued August 11, 2026) is a live dilution channel; the September 23 plan would convert \$850M of Heppner liquidation-preference preferred into just 162,132 Class A shares. The ticker has reverse-split history and printed its all-time low on September 15, 2026.

The Setup: This is a [Float Squeeze](#) play — read the pattern guide to learn how these setups typically unfold.

This report is for informational purposes only and does not constitute investment advice. Always conduct your own due diligence before making any investment decision.